



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Botanists finding *P. Mitis* in the States above mentioned, or in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, or Michigan, are requested to communicate with the Director of the Botanic Garden of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

§ 151. **Wood's Plant Press.**—[On the suggestion of a very distinguished European botanist, we republish the following article.]

The method of drying botanical specimens heretofore generally practised, a method more particularly described in the November and December BULLETINS [1872], is tedious and burdensome. Few, we think, will deny this. The collector who attempts to keep up with the season of flowers must have in use an immense quantity of paper—must rearrange specimens and paper at least twice a day—must thoroughly dry the sheets, separately, daily—all this, besides the collecting, makes botany a *business* rather than a recreation, and leaves too little time for study or any other duty.

It is the drying-press which is in fault—that old-fashioned press used by botanists from Linnæus down. True, it has done good service, and so has the sewing-needle. Shall the sewing-machine be rejected on this account? If the intolerable drudgery of plant-drying by *absorption* can be obviated by an invention, why not try it? Wood's *wire-press*, described in the "*Botanist and Florist*," p. 10, and "*Class-Book*," p. 15, is such an invention, unpatented, free to all collectors. It dries by *evaporation* rather than absorption, and thus makes available all the sources of heat, whether natural or artificial. It requires comparatively but little paper—less than half the amount needed in the old process; hence it is portable, and serves the double purpose of portfolio and press. It requires no changing of specimens and papers, no drying of damp and mildewed sheets.

In fair weather the wire press dries in the wind and sunshine; in foul weather, by the fire. In either case, after one or two days the specimens will be found thoroughly cured, and as bright in colors as is possible by any other known method.

To the travelling collector this form of press is invaluable. With it so light is his labor in drying his specimens that it occasions him little if any delay, and so light his luggage that a single donkey will suffice him in lieu of half a dozen for its transportation. With this simple press the writer, during a single year, cured more than three thousand specimens, in a protracted journey of about fifteen hundred miles.

A. W.

[For the convenience of those who may not have the original at hand we copy the description referred to.]

"The drying press, to be most efficient and convenient, should consist of a dozen quires of unsized paper, at least 11 x 14 inches folio; two sheets of wire gauze (same size) as covers, stiffened by folded edges [a narrow, folded edge of tin plate is better]; and three or four leather straps a yard in length, with buckles. When in use, suspend this press in the wind and sunshine; or, in rainy weather, by the fire."

§ 152. **Leaf Calendar.**—Spring has come. It is time to watch the opening buds. We hope correspondents will keep a note book